

**REMARKS**

Claims 61-114 are pending in the application; claims 1-60 are canceled; claims 65-69, 103-106, and 109-114 are withdrawn; claims 81-99 are allowed.

**Rejection under 35 U.S.C. 102**

Claims 61-64, 73-77, 100-102, 108 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by *Pesch* (US 4,289,467).

Claim 61 has been amended so that a bonding machine for lamellar pieces of wood to be joined to a board is now claimed that comprises at least one clamping and pressing device and at least one drive, wherein the clamping and pressing device has at least two pressing members which are configured to be loaded independently of one another against the board by a pressure force. The clamping and pressing device comprises a pressing slide that applies a pressing force onto the pieces of wood, arranged in a common plane and having longitudinal sides resting against one another, in a direction transverse to the longitudinal sides resting against one another for forming the board. The at least two pressing members generate a brake force acting perpendicularly onto a face of the board in a direction perpendicular to the pressing force of the pressing slide. The feature in regard to the brake force is explained in detail in the present specification in the paragraph bridging pages 18 and 19.

Claim 74 has been amended to include the feature of the pressing slide and the feature of the brake force generated by the at least two pressing members acting perpendicularly onto the face of the board in a direction perpendicular to the pressing force of the pressing slide.

It is important to realize that the present invention concerns gluing of lamellar pieces of wood 2 to a board in such a way that the elongate pieces of wood 2 are placed with their longitudinal sides, to which a glue is applied, against one another and are pressed against one another in order to form a shape-stable board. The elongate pieces of wood 2 must be pressed together reliably in a direction perpendicular to the longitudinal direction.

According to the present invention, the pressing force for joining the pieces of wood is employed within the plane of the board against the longitudinal sides of the lamellar pieces of wood in that a pressing slide 13 is moved against the outermost lamellar piece

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of wood 2' of the board 12 (see attached illustration A). The slide 13 generates the pressing force for joining the lamellar pieces of wood in order to produce the board. A second force, a brake force, is applied by the pressure members 27 onto the face of the board and perpendicular to the pressing force for joining the pieces of wood (see illustration A). This is not disclosed in the cited prior art reference.

The cited prior art reference to *Pesch* concerns gluing of particle board or pressed board comprised of fibers, chips or dust of wood combined with a thermally activatable binder; see col. 1, lines 26 through 38. Accordingly, the apparatus is designed such that the pressing force for producing the board is applied perpendicularly to the face of the board to be produced. The main cylinders 5 of the prior art act perpendicularly to the plane of the board and, in addition, the auxillary cylinders 7 act on the movable press bed 4 in an area outwardly of the reach of the main cylinders 5. The cylinders 7 serve as bearing cylinders and supply a force to the moved bed 4 in axial alignment with the bars 11. A pressing slide for applying a pressing force that acts in the plane of the board perpendicularly to the pressing force of the cylinders 5 is not disclosed.

Claims 61 and its dependent claims are therefore believed to be allowable.

Claim 74 contains also the features of the pressing slide and of the brake force applied by the at least two pressure members. The same arguments as applied in connection with claim 61 apply also to claim 74. Claim 74 is therefore also believed to be allowable.

#### **Rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103**

Claims 70-72, 78, 79, 107 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Pesch* (US 4,289,467) in view of *Onsrud* (US 2,593,691).

The claims 70-72, 78, 79, 107 are believed to be allowable as dependent claims of claim 61.

#### **ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER**

Claims 81-99 are allowed.

Claim 61 as amended is believed to be allowable. As claim 61 covers all embodiments of the present application, rejoinder of the withdrawn claims 65-69 and 103-106 is respectfully requested.

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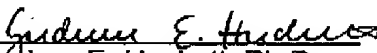
**CONCLUSION**

In view of the foregoing, it is submitted that this application is now in condition for allowance and such allowance is respectfully solicited.

Should the Examiner have any further objections or suggestions, the undersigned would appreciate a phone call or e-mail from the examiner to discuss appropriate amendments to place the application into condition for allowance.

Authorization is herewith given to charge any fees or any shortages in any fees required during prosecution of this application and not paid by other means to Patent and Trademark Office deposit account 50-1199.

Respectfully submitted on September 14, 2004,

  
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Encl.: time extension petition (1 sheet); illustration A (1 sheet)

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